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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" All Collectors have been instructed to keep a close watch on the situation and whenever necessary, to reopen fair price shops in order to bring down the prices."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—" I understand that Tadepalligudem is a rice-producing area. Then, what is the necessity to open fair price shops there? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That was not the question. The question was that there was some deterioration in the stocks of foodgrains at Tadepalligudem and what steps the Government were taking in that regard."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Has the closing of fair price shops anything to do with the steady rise in the price of paddy as was seen from the news appearing in all the papers recently (including ' the Hindu '), at Tadepalligudem? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Perhaps it may be due to the activities of the merchants also. We are taking note of that also now and, if necessary, we shall take steps to requisition stocks under the Foodgrains (Licensing) Order."

SRI M. LAKSHMANASWAMY :—" Since there is no control over exports, how can the Government decide whether an area is surplus or deficit in foodgrains? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The normal quantity produced and the normal consumption in the districts are known and, therefore, we have calculated that there is surplus in these districts."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA :—" Are the fair price shops fair with regard to prices? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It depends upon the attitude of the person who looks at it."

*Statistics* re *migration to neighbouring districts and States.*

* 222 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the State Government have collected statistics of the number of famished men, women and children of Tamil districts who migrated in 1950–51 and 1951–52 to (i) Andhra districts, (ii) to Ceylon, and (iii) to Mysore State, and, if so, whether the Government will please furnish this House with the figures so collected?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The answer is in the negative."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the fact that the Ceylon Government have been saying that there has been a great amount of illegal emigration to Ceylon due to the bad economic conditions in Tamil Nad and, if so, what steps have they taken to stop this kind of emigration? "

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MR. SPEAKER :—" 'Emigration' is a Central subject."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, emigration to Ceylon may be a different subject. But the question is about emigration to Ceylon because of the bad economic conditions in the State itself and what steps the Government have taken to stop such emigration."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The opinion of the Ceylon Government is a Central subject."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" No, the point to be noted here is the bad economic conditions in the State, especially in Tamil Nad."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It refers to the Ceylon Government having held a certain opinion."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Whether the reference is to Ceylon or not, the main point here is that the conditions in Tamil Nad are so bad that the people are unable to live here either because they have no work or otherwise, and are migrating from this place to another place. It may be that they are migrating to Ceylon, Africa or Malaya, but the fact is that they are migrating."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The hon. Member who put the question laid great stress on the opinion expressed by the Ceylon Government. Hence the answer was that it should be put to the Union Government. But if it relates only to a question of economic conditions here and if we may ignore the reference to the Ceylon Government, then the answer is we are giving famine relief, and there is no need to put the question."

*Price of paddy and rice in Malabar.*

* 223 *Q.*—SRI R. KRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the percentage of rise in the price of paddy and rice in Malabar after decontrol ; and

(*b*) what action the Government have taken to supply at reasonable rate rice and paddy to the consumers till the next harvest?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Paddy prices are not reported. The prices of rice in the open market are fluctuating.

" (*b*) The Government are continuing informal rationing in Malabar district and 7 oz. of rice and 5 oz. of millets and/or wheat are being issued through ration shops in the district except in Palghat, Ernad and Walluvanad taluks where 6 ounces of rice and 6 ounces of millets and/or wheat are issued. Rice is supplied at the pool prices fixed by the Government, and wheat and milo at subsidized prices."

SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" According to the Malayalam paper 'Mathrubhumi', dated the 25th March 1953, the price of rice has increased by about 100 per cent since decontrol. The *Malabar*